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Preliminary Report

U-2 RECONNAISSANCE MISSION C495C
Flown 18 September 1965

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Directorate of Science and Technology

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**U-2 RECONNAISSANCE MISSION C495C
flown 18 September 1965**

MISSION HIGHLIGHTS

Mission C495C, flown 18 September 1965, was over the Taiwan Strait area of Communist China for 46 minutes. The U-2 obtained photographic coverage of 33 COMOR targets and 61 other targets. No new missile site or missile related installations were reported.

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at least two fighters were airborne in response to the mission, there is no evidence that an intercept of the mission aircraft was attempted. There were no indications of a surface-to-air missile threat to the mission.

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BACKGROUND

**Mission C495C successfully overflowed the Taiwan Strait area of
Mainland China on 18 September 1965.** [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] **the mission U-2 took off from Taiwan at 0130Z and**

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**crossed into denied territory north of Foochow at 0251Z. Turning south,
the aircraft paralleled the coastline to a point just south of Swatow, exited
the Mainland at 0337Z and returned to base at 0445Z. The total flight
time was three hours and fifteen minutes. Forty-six minutes were
spent over denied territory.**

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In addition to the "B" camera configuration, the U-2 carried collection systems III and VI, and IXB, XIIB, and XIII A defensive systems.

The cloud cover was forecast to be Catagory I (clear) variable II (scattered). Pilot observation confirmed the validity of this forecast.

C495C was the latest in a series of missions flown in response to priority GRC requirements

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ANALYTICAL FINDINGS

AIR DEFENSE REACTIONS

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Fighter Reactions -- At least three and possibly five fighters were airborne in response to the mission. The fighters were never

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in the immediate vicinity of the U-2, however, two of the fighters
did cross the mission track at a lower altitude several minutes
after the U-2 had passed.

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it appears that the fighters were MIG-17s or MIG-19's.

Missile Reactions-- There were no valid indications of surface-
to-air missile (SAM) or Air to Air missiles (AAM) threats to the
mission.

ELINT ANALYSIS

While over denied territory, the U-2 continuously intercepted
signals from early warning, ground control intercept, height finder,
and AAA fire control radars known to be deployed in the Taiwan Strait
area of Communist China (see Table 1). No P-band intercepts were
present, however, due to a probable malfunction aboard the U-2. The

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preliminary field read out of the Elint obtained by the mission did not show any evidence of hostile airborne intercept (AI) or FAN SONG missile radars.

PHOTOGRAPHY

A preliminary study of the mission photography shows that 94 targets were covered in nearly cloud-free photography; including 11 airfields, 12 naval facilities, 53 military installations, 3 electronics facilities, and 15 miscellaneous industrial complexes. These targets included 33 on the COMOR list.

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TABLE 1

**Radars Deployed in the Taiwan Strait Area of China
and Intercepted by Mission C495C**

Early Warning

Height Finder

CROSS SLOT

ROCK CAKE

Ground Control Intercept

TOKEN

Fire Control

FIRE CAN

WHIFF

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SOURCES

This preliminary technical evaluation of a U-2 reconnaissance mission flown over Communist China on 18 September 1965 was developed for the 303 Committee by the following elements of the Directorate of Science and Technology:

Office of Scientific Intelligence

Office of Special Activities

Office of Elint

The evaluations are based on information and data provided by:

Joint Sobe Sigint Processing Center, Okinawa

National Photographic Interpretation Center, Washington, D.C.

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PACOM Elint Center, Fuchu, Japan

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